

CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS CODE: 4188 **TITLE:** ALCOHOL TEST UNIT TECHNICIAN **GRADE:** S-14

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision in the Police Department's Alcohol Test Unit (ATU), performs venipuncture and operates a breathalyzer machine to measure blood alcohol content and to test for the presence of drugs; and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

Positions in this class are assigned full-performance level technical work in the Alcohol Test Unit (ATU). In contrast, positions in the Senior Alcohol Test Unit Technician class function as lead workers, training and guiding lower-level technicians.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:

In the presence of the arresting officer, draws blood to be tested for alcohol or drug content;
Places blood in vials to be sent to an outside laboratory for analysis;
In the presence of the arresting officer and defendant, performs a breathalyzer test to measure the degree of alcohol in the blood;
May testify in court as to test procedures and results;
Calibrates the breathalyzer machine after each use and ensures it is in good working order;
Logs data on each test administered and maintains test records;
Deals with citizens tactfully and courteously under adverse conditions;
Produces documents under court order (Duces Tecum).

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of standard methods for performing venipuncture;
Demonstrated skill in performing technical venipuncture procedures;
Ability to use a breathalyzer correctly, produce accurate test results, and record results properly;
Ability to successfully complete State-certified training as a Breathalyzer Operator, and obtain a Breathalyzer Operator's License issued by the Virginia Department of General Services' Division of Forensic Science.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to:
High school graduation or a G.E.D. issued by a state department of education; PLUS
One year of medical or hospital experience performing venipuncture.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

Possession of a Breathalyzer Operator's License issued by the Virginia Department of General Services, Forensic Science Division;
Possession of a valid Motor Vehicle Driver's License.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Must be able to receive a designation from the Circuit Court authorizing him/her to withdraw blood for the purpose of determining its alcohol and/or drug content;
Must successfully complete a state criminal history record check prior to appointment.

REVISED: April 26, 1999
REVISED/RETITLED: September 12, 1994